

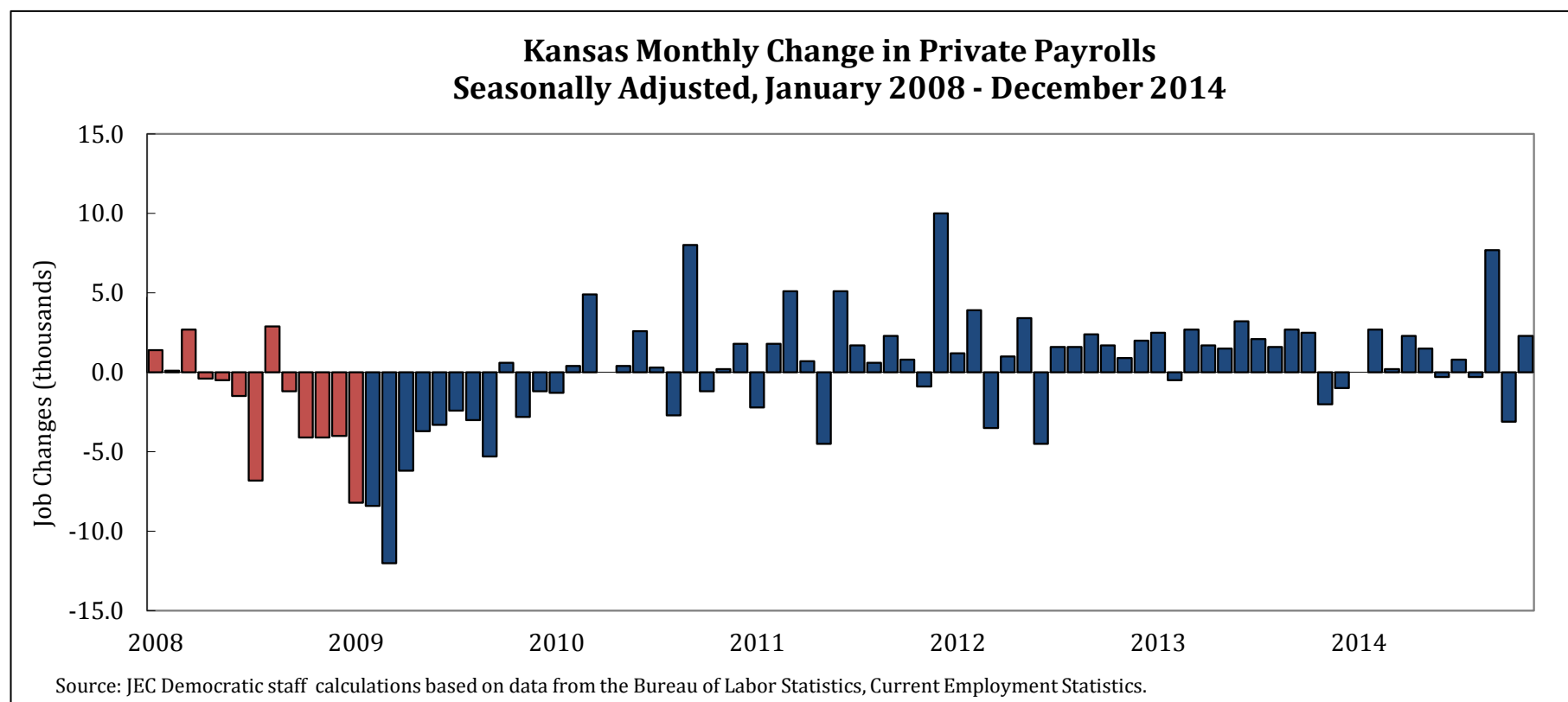


ECONOMIC SNAPSHOT: KANSAS

Includes Bureau of Labor Statistics jobs and unemployment data through December 2014

JOBS

- In December, private-sector employment in Kansas grew by 2,300 jobs. Over the past year, the Kansas private sector has added 12,800 jobs. This compares with an increase of 20,000 jobs over the 12 months ending in December 2013.
- Kansas private-sector employers have added 77,700 jobs (an increase of 7.3 percent) since February 2010, the national low point for private-sector employment.
- In Kansas, the following sectors have posted the largest job gains since February 2010: professional and business services (29,000 jobs), education and health services (12,700 jobs) and trade, transportation and utilities (10,800 jobs).
- The Kansas sectors with the greatest job gains in percentage terms since February 2010 are: mining and logging (38.3 percent), professional and business services (20.6 percent) and construction (16.0 percent).



UNEMPLOYMENT

- The unemployment rate in Kansas was 4.2 percent in December 2014, holding constant from November. The rate is down 0.7 percentage point from one year earlier and is below its recent peak of 7.5 percent in August 2009.
- 62,400 Kansas residents were unemployed during December 2014, down from a recent high of 114,000 in July 2009. There are still 2,600 more people unemployed in Kansas than when the recession began.
- In Kansas, initial claims for unemployment insurance benefits totaled 10,949 during December, down 3.4 percent from the previous month. Total initial claims over the past 12 months are down 13.3 percent from their level over the 12 months before that.

EXPORTS

- In Kansas, exports totaled \$928 million in November and \$11.9 billion over the past year, down 0.3 percent from the 12 months ending in November 2013 (inflation-adjusted dollars).
- Kansas exports over the past 12 months are up 14.7 percent from their level in the same 12-month period four years earlier (inflation-adjusted dollars).

HOUSING

- Home prices in Kansas increased by 3.5 percent from the third quarter of 2013 to the third quarter of 2014 (the most recent quarter for which data are available). They are up 7.1 percent since their recent low in the second quarter of 2011 and are now 1.7 percent above their pre-housing-crash peak.
- Housing starts in Kansas totaled 16,480 units (seasonally adjusted annual rate) in November 2014, an increase of 65.5 percent from October.
- Within the Midwest census region, which includes Kansas, sales of new single-family homes totaled 54,000 units (seasonally adjusted annual rate) in December 2014, a decrease of 11.5 percent from November. Sales of existing single-family homes decreased by 3.8 percent to 1,020,000 units (at seasonally adjusted annual rates) from November to December 2014.

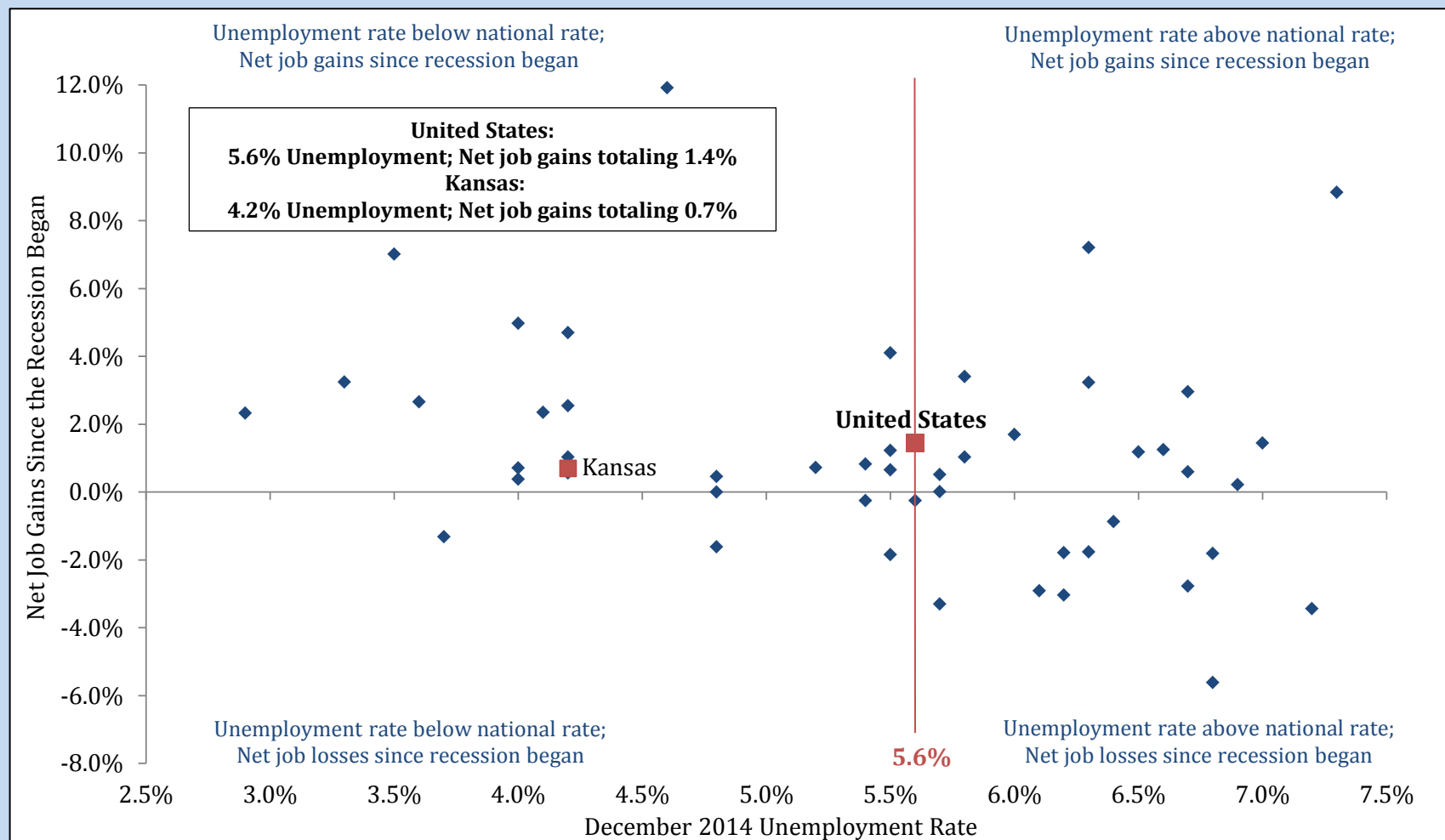
* For Kansas-specific labor sector statistics, please refer to the Kansas office: <http://www.dol.ks.gov/lmis/Default.aspx>

How Does Kansas Compare to Other States?

Workers across the country were hit hard during the recent recession. Since then, employment in some states has returned to pre-recession levels, while employment in other states remains below pre-recession levels. The chart below allows for a comparison of Kansas to other states using two metrics.

The unemployment rate (measured along the horizontal axis) serves as a gauge of current labor-market conditions in Kansas, while net job gains since the recession began (current nonfarm jobs as a share of jobs prior to the recession) measures progress toward labor-market recovery (vertical axis).

States falling in the upper left quadrant have net job gains since the start of the recession and unemployment rates lower than the national unemployment rate. States falling in the lower right quadrant have higher unemployment rates than the United States overall and are still experiencing net job losses relative to pre-recession levels.



Note: The figure above excludes North Dakota, which has a current unemployment rate of 2.8% and net job gains totaling 31.5% since the start of the recession.

STATE QUICK FACTS

		Kansas	United States
Unemployment Rate	December 2014	4.2%	5.6%
	December 2013	4.9%	6.7%
	December 2012	5.6%	7.9%
	December 2011	6.1%	8.5%
Percent of Population Who Are Veterans	2013	10.4%	9.0%
All Veterans' Unemployment Rate	2013	5.5%	6.6%
Post-9/11 Veterans' Unemployment Rate	2013	11.0%	9.0%
Median Household Income (2013 \$)	2013	\$ 51,485	\$ 51,939
	(CPS Annual Social and Economic Supplement) 2007	\$ 54,485	\$ 56,436
Poverty Rate	2013	13.2%	14.5%
	(CPS Annual Social and Economic Supplement) 2007	11.7%	12.5%
Percentage Without Health Insurance	2013	12.3%	14.5%
(American Community Survey)			